MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Synod of Harrisburg,

WITH AN APPENDIX.

A. D. 1877.

PUBLISHED BY THE SYNOD UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE STATED CLERK

HARRISBURG, PA.:
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1877.

Officers of the Synod for 1877--1878.

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MODERATOR,

Rev. ROBERT HAMILL, D. D., Boalsburg, Pa.

STATED CLERK,

Rev. THOMAS H. ROBINSON, D. D., Harrisburg, Pa.

PERMANENT CLERK,

Rev. ROBERT F. WILSON, Bedford, Pa.

TEMPORARY CLERK,

Rev. JOHN C. CALDWELL, Chambersburg, Pa.

TREASURER,

H. MURRAY GRAYDON, Harrisburg, Pa.

SYNOD OF HARRISBURG.

A. D. 1877.

The Synod of Harrisburg met according to adjournment in the Pine street Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg, Pa., on Thursday, October 18th, 1877, at half past seven o'clock, P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator of the last Synod, Rev. JOSEPH A. MURRAY, D. D., of the Presbytery of Carlisle, from a part of the seventh verse of the II. chapter of Micah, "Is the spirit of the Lord straitened."

After sermon the Synod was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was made out and is as follows, viz :

Presbytery of Carlisle.

Ministers.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
Robert M'Cachren. Thomas Creigh, D. D. Conway P. Wing, D. D. Joseph Marr. Joseph Mahon. Joseph A. Murray, D. D.	Mercersburg,	J. M. M'Cullough.
Robert McPherson, Obadiah H. Miller.	Centre.	
J. Agnew Crawford, D. D. David C. Meeker. Cornelius R. Lane.	Chambersburg, Falling Spr., Dauphin.	J. S. Nixon.
Ebenezer Erskine, D. D. James F. Kennedy, D. D. Isaac N. Hays. William T. Wylie.	Big Spring,	D. G. Duncan.
Henry Rinker.	Dickinson,	John T. Green.
William A. West.	Harrisburg, Westminster,	John E. Patterson.
Thomas H. Robinson, D.D.,	Harrisburg, Market Sq.,	S. J. M. McCarrell.
R. Lewis McCune,	Fayetteville,	R. F. McElroy.
J. Smith Gordon,	L. P. Valley and Burnt Cabins,	J. H. Walker.
Samuel C. Alexander,	U. P. Valley,	T. R. Gaston.
Joseph Vance,	Carlisle I,	E. Beatty.
John C. Caldwell,	Chambersburg, Central,	C. B. Northrop.
Samuel C. George,	St. Thomas and Rocky Spring,	
George Norcross,	Carlisle II,	J. A. Stewart.

Ministers.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders*
William S. Van Cleve,	L. Marsh Creek and Great Conewago,	J. J. Kerr.
Samuel W. Reigart,	Mechanicsburg,	D. L. Clark.
John Edgar,	Bloomfield,	W. A. Sponsler.
John K. Demarest,	Gettysburg,	R. G. McCreary.
Charles A. Wyeth,	Harrisburg, Seventh st.,	Dr. John Curwen.
Robert P. Gibson,	Middletown,	B. F. Kendig.
W. Nevin Geddes.		
Richard Arthur.		
John R. Paxton,	Harrisburg, Pine st.	H. Murray Graydon.
William H. Logan,	Millerstown and Newport,	James Patterson.
William A. McCarrell,	Shippenshurg,	John A. Craig.
Robert F. McClean,	M'Connellsburg, Green Hill and Wells Valley,	John B. Alexander.
William W. Downey,	Duncannon,	Moses Kirkpatrick.
	Middle Spring,	R. H. McIlhenny.
	Green Castle,	William McCrory.
	Paxton,	J. G. Rutherford.
	Silvers' Spring,	Charles Hyers.
	Buffalo,	Samuel Liggett.
Ministers not present.		
Samuel B. Smith,	Petersburg.	
Alexander K. Nelson,	Harrisburg, Elder st.	
James J. Hamilton,	Shermansdale.	
John R. Agnew,	Landisburg.	
Andrew D. Mitchell,	Upper.	
Edwin Emerson,	Buckvalley.	
James S. Woodburn,	Warfordsburg.	
George Robinson,	R. K. Memorial.	
Joseph H. Fleming.		
Samuel S. Wylie.		
Samuel McLanahan,	Waynesburg.	
	Hanover.	
	Derry.	

Presbytery of Huntingdon.

Ministers.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
William J. Gibson, D.D.,	Duncanville and Martinsburg.	
N. Grier White,	Williamsburg.	
Oliver O. McClean, D. D.,	Lewistown,	T. F. McCoy.
William Prideaux,	Mapleton.	
Robert Hamill, D.D.,	Spring Creek.	
John W. White,	Milroy,	J. C. McNitt.
John C. Barr,	Alexandria,	John Porter.
Joseph H. Mathers,	Logan's Valley.	
Robert F. Wilson,		
David H. Barron,	Hollidaysburg.	
William W. Campbell,		
Samuel M. Moore, D. D.	Tyrone.	
David W. Moore,	McVeytown,	William Macklin.
John C. Wilhelm,	Petersburg,	Samuel K. Wharton.
Joseph C. Kelly,	Spruce Creek,	Samuel Wigton.
J. Edmund Kearns,	Upper Tuscarora and Peru.	
Henry S. Butler,	Clearfield,	Dr. A. M. Hills.
William Laurie,	Bellefonte,	James L. Summerville.
J. Johnson Coale,	Sinking Valley and Lower Spruce Creek.	
Thomas Thompson, M. D.	Phillipsburg.	

Ministers.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
Stephen W. Pomeroy,	New Hamilton and Mount Union,	T. A. Appleby.
Andrew H. Parker,	E. Kishacoquillas,	F. A. Means.
Samuel S. Wallen.		
Ambrose N. Hollifield.	Huntingdon,	Samuel Brown.
Maxwell N. Cornelius,	Altoona, 1.	Allen McGlathery.
James H. Stewart,	Perrysville,	G. M. Graham.
Thomas J. Sherrard,	Mifflintown,	
Edwin P. Foresman,	Saxton and Yellow Creek,	E. H. Turner.
William Gemmill,	Buelah and Houtsdale.	
John C. Oliver,	Lower Tuscarora,	W. B. Gilson.
David H. Campbell,	Fruit Hill.	
Thomas A. Robinson,	Sinking Creek and Spring Mills.	
Robert A. Watson.		
Ministers not present.		
Samuel H. McDonald.		
Moses Floyd.		
Samuel T. Wilson, D. D.,	Birmingham.	
James P. Hughes.		
John M'Kean.		
Noah H. McDonald.		
Richard Crittenden.		
Joseph Waugh.		
John H. Sargent.		
William M. Burchfield,	Pennfield and Bethany.	
Washington O. Wright,	Milesburg, Moshannon and Snow Shoe.	
Richard M. Campbell,	W. Kishacoquillas.	
William C. Kuhn,	Shade Gap.	
Jacob V. R. Hughes,	Bald Eagle and Buffalo Run.	
Willliam J. Chichester,	Altoona, II.	
Nelson H. Miller,	Osceola.	
	Pine Grove.	
	Lick Run.	
	Hublersburg.	
	Shirleysburg.	
	Bradford.	
	Middle Tuscarora.	
	Orbisonia.	
	Kylertown.	
	Woodland.	
	Shellsburg.	
	St. Clairsville.	
	Curwinsville.	
	Luthersburg.	
	Lost Creek.	
	Little Valley.	

Presbytery of Northumberland.

Ministers Present.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
James C. Watson, D.D.,	Milton,	William Stadden.
John P. Hudson, Isaac Grier, D. D.,	Buffalo,	Robert B. Barber.
Willliam Sterling, Samuel H. Reed,	Renova, I,	A. J. Quigley.
John S. Foulk,	Northumberland.	
John Johnson,	Washingtonville and Derry.	
Joseph Stevens,	Jersey Shore,	John Hamilton.

Ministers present.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
George Elliott,	Warrior Run, McEwensville and Watsontown.	
Stuart Mitchell,	Bloomsburg.	
Joseph Nesbitt,	Great Island,	John S. Furst.
James D. Reardon,	Mifflinburg, New Berlin and Hartleton,	A. Mineford.
James Dickson,	Berwick.	
John Burrows,	Williamsport, III,	P. W. Bentley.
	Williamsport, II,	A. K. Mabie.
Henry G. Finney,	Chillesquaque and Moorsburg,	Robert Mack.
Samuel H. Thompson,	Lewisburg,	Thomas Howard.
P. B. Van Syckel.		
L. L. Haughawont,	Bald Eagle and Nittany.	
Alvin C. Campbell,	Montgomery and Montoursville,	Samuel Hartzell.
Martin L. Ross,	Sunbury.	
William A. McAtee,	Grove.	
James W. Boal,	Washington.	
Thomas R. Beeber,	Mahoning,	Josiah Reed.
Samuel T. Thompson,	Muncy.	
A. C. Clark,	Shamokin, I,	Alexander Fulton.
John Thomas,	Linden.	
Ministers not present.		
	Pennsdale,	Dr. A. Rankin.
John H. Grier,	Lock Haven, II.	
David Hull,	Mt. Zion.	
David J. Waller, Sr.,	Holland Run.	
W. G. E. Agnew,	Emporium.	
Philander Camp,	Lycoming Centre.	
John Caldwell,	Shamokin, Elysburg and Centralia.	
P. W. Mellick,	Shiloh.	
Horatio W. Brown.		
Nathaniel Spear,	New Columbia and Briar Creek.	
George F. Cain,	Williamsport, I.	
Robert White.		
L. D. Calkins.		
Charles K. Canfield.		
D. J. Waller, Jr.,	Orangeville, Rohrsburg and Raven Creek.	
Alexander Henry,	Lycoming.	
A. J. Montgomery.		

Presbytery of Wellsboro'.

Ministers present.	*Churches.*	*Ruling Elders.*
James F. Calkins,	Wellsboro',	Henry W. Williams.
S. C. McElroy,	Coudersport.	
John Carns,	Elkland and Osceola.	
John B. Grier,	Lawrenceville.	
George D. Meigs,	Mansfield,	William A. Bates.
Ministers not present.		
	Arnot.	
Samuel A. Rawson,	Fall Brook.	
Benjamin Russell,	Beecher's Island and Farmington.	
Jacob Mitchell, D. D.		
J. Mills Gillette,	Kane.	

Ministers not present.

Fredrick Graves.	
William Baldwin,	Tioga.
John S. Swain,	Alleghany.
	Covington.
	Morris Run.

Persons invited to sit as

Corresponding Members.

Rev. C. R. Gregory, D. D.,	Synod of	Philadelphia.
Rev. F. F. Ellinwood, D. D.,	"	New York.
Rev. J. G. Craighead, D. D.,	"	New York.
Rev. Geo. P. Hays, D. D.,	"	Pittsburgh.
Rev. S. P. Herron,	"	California.
Rev. Wm. W. Dorland,	"	Philadelphia.
Rev. J. Q. A. Fullerton,	"	Philadelphia.
Rev. Geo. W. Snyder, of the	Reformed	Church.
Rev. W. H. Keith, "	Methodist	Episcopal Church.
Rev. P. I. Eyer, "	"	" "
Rev. J. C. Clark, "	"	" "
Rev. J. Y. Shannon, "	"	" "
Rev. J. D. Brown, "	"	" "
Rev. L. M. Heilman, "	Lutheran	Church.

The Rev. Robert Hamill, D. D., of the Presbytery of Huntingdon, was chosen Moderator of this Synod, and the Rev. J. C. Caldwell, of the Presbytery of Carlisle, was chosen Temporary Clerk.

The Committee of Arrangements, reported in part, recommending that Synod sit daily, nine A. M. to twelve M., from two P. M. to five P. M., and from seven and a half P. M., to hour of adjournment. They recommended that the devotional exercises be observed as follows: from nine to nine fifteen A. M., and from eleven fifteen A. M. to twelve M. The Standing Rule of Synod was set aside for the present session to conform to this arrangement. They recommended as a topic of special prayer for Friday A. M., at eleven fifteen, the youth of our congregetions, and as a topic for thought and discussion at the same hour on Saturday A. M., "The word in preaching." It was further recommended to devote the Friday evening service to the subject of Missions, Home and Foreign, and that Dr. F. F. Ellinwood, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, be invited to address Synod; and that Saturday evening be devoted to a general praise, prayer and conference meeting. The report was accepted and adopted.

The Synod then adjourned until nine o'clock A. M. to-morrow; closed with prayer.

FRIDAY, OCT. 19, 1877, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Synod met and spent fifteen minutes in devotional exercises.

The minutes of last evening's session were read and approved. Additional members of Synod appeared and were enrolled by the Clerks.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees, viz:

I. *Bills and Overtures.—Ministers*, Jos. A. Murray, John W. White, Joseph Stevens. *Elders*, H. W. Williams, Alex. Fulton.

II. *Judicial Committee.—Ministers*, D. H. Barron, Geo. Norcross, W. A. McAtee. *Elders*, R. G. McCreary, T. F. McCoy.

III. *General Assembly.—Ministers*, Isaac Grier, John Edgar, John C. Barr. *Elders*, Thomas Howard, John Porter.

IV. *Finance and Treasurer's Account.—Elders*, C. B. Northrop, J. L. Sommerville, William Stadden.

V. *Leave of Absence.—Ministers*, J. J. Coale, J. W. Boal. *Elder*, Jos. A. Stewart.

VI. *Narrative for 1878.—Ministers*, Stuart Mitchell, J. A. Crawford, S. W. Pomeroy.

VII. *On Records of Presbyteries:*

1. *Carlisle—Ministers*, J. C. Kelly, S. C. McElroy. *Elder*, William Macklin.
2. *Huntingdon—Ministers*, Jos. Nesbitt, Geo. D. Meigs. *Elder*, E. Beatty.
3. *Northumberland—Ministers*, Joseph Vance, William Laurie. *Elder*, William A. Bates.
4. *Wellsboro'—Ministers*, E. Erskine, George Elliott. *Elder*, Samuel Wigton.

The following Ruling Elders were appointed on the several Permanent Committees of Synod for 1878, viz:

1. *Home Missions*	A. K. Mabie.
2. *Education*	John Porter.
3. *Church Erection*	A. McGlathery.
4. *Freedmen*	Thomas Howard.
5. *Sustentation*	Jos. A. Stewart.
6. *Foreign Missions*	T. F. McCoy.
7. *Publication*	C. B. Northrop.
8. *Relief Fund*	Wm. Macklin.
9. *Sabbath Schools*	John S. Furst.

The records of the Presbyteries were presented and referred to their several committees.

Huntingdon was chosen as the place, and 7:30 P. M. as the hour, of the next stated meeting of Synod, the day being fixed by a Standing Rule.

The session of the church at Huntingdon was appointed a committee of arrangements for that meeting.

The following persons were invited to set with the Synod as corresponding members, viz:

Rev.	Dr. C. R. Gregory,	of the	Synod of	Philadelphia.
"	J. Q. A. Fullerton,	"	"	"
"	Dr. J. G. Craighead,	"	"	New York.
"	Samuel P. Herron,	"	"	Pacific.
"	Geo. W. Snyder,	"	"	Reformed Church.
"	W. H. Keith,	"	"	Met. Episcopal Church.

Rev. Geo. Norcross, and Hon. H. W. Williams, who were in attendance at the General Presbyterian Council, at Edinburgh, Scotland, were invited to address the Synod on the subject of said council from four to five P. M., of to-day.

Rev. Dr. C. R. Gregory now, by invitation, addressed the Synod in behalf of the interests of Lincoln University. He was followed by Rev. Dr. Wing, who presented the following resolutions which were accepted and adopted:

Resolved 1. That Lincoln University as having ample buildings for students; so much endowment as secures its life; a competent faculty; as situated in our own State, and so separated from the influence of the people so recently slaves, is peculiarly fitted to train ministers and teachers for the colored people of our country and for Africa.

Resolved 2. That in view of the good work it has done and is now doing, and its need of aid, Licoln University has special claims upon our benevolence and is earnestly commended to our churches.

The Synod now held devotional exercises till twelve M. the services having special reference to the youth of our church.

The Synod then took recess until two o'clock P. M.

Friday, two P. M.

Synod met at two, P. M.

It was made the first order of the day, for to-morrow morning, to hear the reports from the Permanent Committees on the several Boards of the Church, and the second order to hear the Rev. Dr. J. G. Craighead, in behalf of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

The papers in the judicial case of Dr. J. R. Findley, against the Presbytery of Huntingdon, were referred to the Judicial Committee.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly made a report which was accepted. The first item of the report called the attention of Synod to the recommendation of the General Assembly, in reference to the week of prayer in the first complete week of January; also to the last Thursday in January as a day of prayer for schools and colleges and for the youth of the land and the world.

The recommendation was adopted by Synod; the rest of the report was put on the Docket.

The Synod's representative on the General Synodical Committee of the Church on Benevolent Work, made the following report, which was accepted and adopted, viz:

To the Synod of Harrisburg:

The undersigned the representative of this Synod upon the "General Assembly's Committee of the Synods on the Benevolent Work of the Church," begs leave respectfully to submit the following report:

The last year has been a year of progress for our Church, in all its fields of Missionary labor and in all its departments of Benevolence. The total contribution to these objects, is nearly $200,000 larger than in 1876, and the average per member has correspondingly increased. It is however unpleasant to reflect that our own Synod has not only failed to keep pace with the great body of the Church, but has fallen behind its own record of 1876. The following table shows the relative position of the Synod of Harrisburg, to the whole Church in membership, and amounts given, and the average per member for the years ending May 1, 1876, and May 1, 1877.

Year 1876:

The Church had members, 535,210, gave $1,042,998, average, $1.98.
" Synod " 22,957, " 39,026, " 1.70.

Year 1877:

The Church had members, 557,674, gave, $1,222,727, average, $2.19.
" Synod " 23,008, " 36,875, " 1.60.

The Presbytery of Carlisle fell below the contributions of 1876 by the sum of $422, Northumberland, by the sum of $1,862: Total loss in these two Presbyteries, $2,284.

The Presbytery of Huntingdon gained $97, and Wellsboro,' $36: Total gain, $133, leaving a net loss in the Synod of $2,151.

This is not a flattering exhibit; it suggests with disagreeable directness and force the question whether we have done all that we should have done towards sustaining the great enterprises of the Church. But the future is ours. With a view to increase the interest of the Churches and the Presbyteries in the Benevolent Work of the Church, and to stimulate systematic effort in its behalf, the following resolutions are submitted:

1. That the Eleventh Standing Rule of Synod be amended by adding to the list of Permanent Committees, after "sustentation," in the third line of section 8, the following; "the Benevolent Work of the Church."

2. That the Twelfth Standing Rule be amended by the addition thereto of a new section as follows: "The Committee of the Benevolent Work of the Church shall consist of the Chairmen of the several Presbyterial Committees on Benevolent Work, &c., of the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, and the Stated Clerk of the Synod, who shall be *ex-officio* clerk of said committee."

The following reasons in favor of adopting these resolutions are suggested:

1. The Assembly's Committee of the Synods, &c., upon which the undersigned had the honor to represent this Synod for several years, has been discontinued by the action of the last Assembly.

2. The work heretofore done by said committee must fall back upon the Synods, or go undone, as the Assembly has provided no other instrumentality for doing it.

3. The raising of a Permanent Committee for this purpose puts the subject upon the docket, and secures for it an annual hearing.

In the hope that in the way suggested, or in some better way, this great subject may be kept before the Churches of this Synod, until we are able to stand abreast with the Church of which we are a part, this final report of the late committee is submitted.

H. W. WILLIAMS,
Chairman.

A communication was received from the Young Men's Christian Association of Harrisburg, inviting Synod to visit their rooms and inspect their plans for christian work. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The papers in Judicial Case No. 2, being the protest and complaint of Rev. D. J. Waller, Sr., against the action of Synod at its last meeting, which was remanded by the General Assembly to the Synod, was referred to the Judicial Committee.

The hour of the day fixed by Standing Rule for hearing the Narratives and Statistical Reports of the Presbyteries having come, they were now read and referred.

The Narrative on the State of Religion within the bounds of the Synod for the past year, was presented and read by the Chairman, Rev. W. H. Logan, and on motion, was accepted and adopted by Synod. It is as follows:

THE NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION IN THE SYNOD OF HARRISBURG.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of the Synod of Harrisburg, respectfully report:

But three Narratives have been received by the Committee: from Carlisle, Huntingdon and Wellsboro', from which we gather the following:

The past year has been one of quiet work, and as quiet times do not produce many unusual events, our history is short. Last year's Narrative was filled with rejoicing over the greatest ingathering in the history of the Synod.

This year we can only report one-third as great an increase in additions to our church on profession of faith. But as all the Narratives speak of good attendance on Sabbath services and renewed interest in prayer meetings and Sabbath schools and of healthy church life, may we not hope that we are living in times like those of the Judges. After narrating the stirring event of the conquest and division of the country, it is said that the land had rest at one time forty years and at another time eighty years.

Although no events are recorded of these long periods, we are led to infer that they were times of great prosperity and happiness. Or, as in the times of the Apostles, it is said "Then had the churches rest and were edified, and walking in the fear of the Lord, and the comfort of the Holy Ghost were multiplied." Upon the whole the state of religion is encouraging.

There are evidences of increased spirtual activity in the churches. The scriptures are read more generally and in connection with the Sabbath school lessons are studied systematically. There is a revived interest in the study of the cathechism. Ladies' missionary societies have been organized to aid especially in the foreign work. Huntingdon reports an increase of eighteen societies during the past year, and a Presbyterial Auxiliary Society was formed in Carlisle last March which was largely attended and promises much good.

The Narrative of Wellsboro' says: The newly organized church of Kane, M'Kean county, has a remarkable story to tell as illustrating the Providence of God in bringing great results from the most unpromising beginnings.

Several of the churches of Huntingdon Presbytery enjoyed a large measure of the Spirit's presence and were greatly revived; the church of Academia, Lower Tuscarora, thirty-seven being added to the church on professions of faith. Although the additions were not as great as to some of the other churches, yet it was a revival of great power, reminding us of the wonderful revivals during Dr. Thompson's ministry.

The subject of intemperance is attracting an unusual degree of attention and greater efforts and earnest prayers are made to stem its baleful influence. Especially has this been the case in Harrisburg and Carlisle where the temperance movement has been quite successful.

The Churches are still feeling the effects of the continued financial depression. Many of the Pastors report their salaries in arrears and some of their people suffering. The contributions to the Board have fallen off $2,150 from last year. The scriptures say, "In time of adversity consider." Would it not be well for us all to consider whether a great reason for the long continued depression is not found in withholding our tithes? Too many people begin retrenchment and economy at the house of the Lord. At a time like this the Lord said to his people by the Prophet Haggai, that they "Sowed much and brought in little, and earned wages to put into a bag with holes, because they neglected his house." One of the greatest promises of the Bible was made in a time of great financial depression, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now, herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." There is a very close

connection between consecrated property, and temporal and spiritual blessing. If the Church ceases to be a Missionary Church, it loses its spiritual life. Since the last meeting of Synod, one of our most faithful and gifted brethren has been called to his reward, Rev. D. K. RICHARDSON, who died August 20th, 1877. With grateful acknowledgment of God's mercies during the past year, we enter with encouragement and hope upon the labors of another year.

W. H. LOGAN,
Chairman.

At 3 o'clock P. M. the Synodical Prayer Meeting was held, under the leadership of the Moderator.

From four o'clock until five, according to an order of the day, the Rev. GEORGE NORCROSS and HON. H. W. WILLIAMS addressed the Synod upon the General Presbyterian Council, lately held at Edinburgh, Scotland, at which they were present as delegates from our Church. The Synod expressed its high sense of the ability and value of the addresses by a rising vote of thanks.

The Judicial Committee reported the papers in case No. 1 to be in order, and recommended that it be taken up and issued according to the book. The report was accepted, and the consideration of the case was made the third order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Revs. P. F. EYER, J. C. CLARKE and J. Y. SHANNON, of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the M. E. Church, the Rev. GEO. P. HAYS, D. D., of the Synod of Pittsburgh, and the Rev. F. F. ELLINWOOD, of the Synod of New York, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The following Ruling Elders were appointed on the Standing Committees of Synod, viz:

Home Missions, A. K. Mabie.
Education, John Porter.
Church Erection, Allen McGlathery.
Freedmen, Thomas Howard.
Sustentation, Joseph A. Stewart.
Foreign Missions, T. F. McCoy.
Publication, C. B. Northrop.
Relief Fund, William Macklin.
Sabbath Schools, John S. Furst.

The HON. H. W. WILLIAMS was appointed the Synodical Superintendent of Benevolent Work, and to act with him the following representa-

tives of the several Presbyteries, according to the plan adopted by the last General Assembly:

Carlisle, Rev. W. T. Wylie and Rev. W. A. West.

Huntingdon, Rev. J. C. Kelly and Rev. R. Hamill.

Northumberland, Rev. S. H. Thompson and Rev. L. L. Haughawont

Wellsboro', Rev. George D. Meigs and Rev. S. C. McElroy, with the Stated Clerk of Synod as Clerk of the Committee.

Synod took recess until 7.30 P. M.

FRIDAY, 7.30. P. M.

The services of the evening were devoted to the cause of Foreign Mission. After praise, the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was read by the Chairman, Rev. S. H. THOMPSON. After further praise and prayer, the Rev. DR. F. F. ELLINWOOD, one of the Secretaries of the Board of Foreign Missions, addressed the Synod. The report was accepted and adopted and is as follows, viz:

Foreign Missions:—The following is a synopsis of the Report on Foreign Missions: of the 177 Churches of Synod, 44 have contributed nothing to this Board; 18 of these have been pastorates, 24 vacancies. Some doubtless are poor, but none wholly excusable.

Your committee would deplore no less the large proportion of delinquents than the disproportion in the amounts set opposite the giving churches, a fact which we believe is due more to difference of disposition than of ability; churches with from twice to five times the ability are giving less than half as much as others; for example, Birmingham Church in the Huntingdon Presbytery gave in '76, $900 and in '77, $962, an advance of $62; Spruce Creek gave in '76, $848, and in '77, $1,011, an advance of $163. Each of these Churches gave more than double that of any other, while it is obvious there are Churches in the Presbytery from twice to five times their ability. This remarkable disproportion prevails in all our Presbyteries; for instance, Bloomsburg, a small church in Northumberland Presbytery, far exceeds any other Church therein, and cast in the shade the wealthier congregations of Lock Haven, Williamsport, Jersey Shore, Danville and Milton.

Your committee would commend to the practical consideration of Synod these two points, viz: the large proportion of delinquents and large dis-proportion in amounts contributed by the giving churches.

The Synod was also addressed on the same subject by the Rev. DR. GEO. P. HAYS, and a Synodical collection was taken up for the cause, amounting to $108 38.

Synod adjourned to meet at 9 A. M. to-morrow; closed with prayer.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20, 1877.

Synod met at 9 o'clock A. M. and spent fifteen minutes in devotional exercises.

The minutes of the session of yesterday were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported judicial case No. 2, being the appeal of Rev. D. J. WALLER, SR., to the General Assembly from the action of the Synod of Harrisburg, which has been remanded to the Synod on the ground of the "absence of necessary documents," and recommend that in the absence of the appellant and of any additional facts, the action of the Synod at its last meeting be re-affirmed as a judicious disposition of the case.

The time fixed for the first order of the day having come, the reports of the Permanent Committees of the Synod were presented. Rev J. F. CALKINS, Chairman of the Committee on Home Missions, read the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

Your Committee on Home Missions hope to comprehend most in briefest space, by presenting a statistical table, a little more elaborate than usual, and commenting upon it, as follows:

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Presbyteries.	Churches	Added during Year.		Present Membership,	Gain or Loss	Average Membership per Church	Contribut'ns to Home Missions	Less by Home Mission report.	No. Contribut'ns.		Missionaries employed by Home Mis'ns,	Am't paid by Home Missions	Amount per Minister,
		By Examination	By Certificate,						P. and S. S.	V.			
Carlisle	48	219	141	6,690	— 49	140	$4,233	$2,048	4	6	2	$300	.63
Huntingdon	66	455	301	10,018	—107	150	3,768	1,104	5	9	6	1,300	.38
Northumberland	49	332	138	5,473	+198	112	2,490	751	7	6	3	400	.45
Wellsboro'	14	57	27	827	+ 9	59	161	+11	1	2	7	1,500	.20
Synod	177	1,063	607	23,008	+ 51	130	10,625	3,892	17	23	18	3,500	.....
		1,670							40				

Inspecting this table we find the aggregate increase of our membership over last year is but 51, while there has been actually added to our churches 1,670 names, which, we think, is just about an average annual gain. We have evidence, also, that some of our churches have enjoyed precious revivals during the past year. Our mourning, therefore, over the comparison of the whole number added during the past year with the number added the year before, is turned to thanksgiving and praise, when we consider the actual additions. We account for this apparent discrepancy, not on the score of dismissions and deaths, but the wiser discrimination of our church sessions in making out their reports to the Assembly. Had they reported all their nominal members, 25,000 would have been less than the whole number. It would have made a greater show but would have been manifestly no fair representation of the real strength of our churches, for many of the numbers are unavoidably non-residents, beyond our pastoral oversight, and do not see their churches once a year, and often not for years.

Of the 23,000 already reported, if 2,000 of the main supporters of the church and board should cease to give, nineteen-twentieths of our churches would be dependent on missionary aid. Many would be left, rich in faith, and heirs of the Kingdom, but our churches would be bankrupt in material resources. Any of our pastors may easily verify this by supposing less than one-tenth of their burden-bearers should drop out. The increasing assessments upon our churches, the small average of giving per member, and a due regard to a fair representation of our working force, without any self-glorification, has made us more cautious in reporting the total membership of our churches. It will be seen also that the average membership of the three larger Presbyteries does not greatly differ, while the smaller has less than a third the number of churches in either of them, and the average membership of these less than one-half the others.

Our contributions to Home Missions are $10,625, a shrinkage of about three hundred dollars from the year before, and about the same from the average contributions of the past six years. According to the report of the Home Mission Board, our contributions were $6,760; less by $3,892 than reported to the Assembly.

This amount has been appropriated by the three Presbyteries where this difference appears.

Our Presbyteries have employed eighteen Home Missionaries, commissioned by the Board, these have been paid by the H. M. Board $3,500, an average of $195 each, this leaves a balance of $3,260 for the general uses of the Board beyond our own bounds.

If the appropriations of the Presbyteries of $3,892 was mainly within their own bounds, which your Committee has no means of knowing, nor yet the number of Missionaries thereby aided, then the amount of missionary aid expended the past year on the churches in this Synod, is $7,392, and the relative proportion between the different Presbyteries does not greatly differ.

We had supposed the non-contributing churches belonged to the vacant class until a closer inspection has revealed to us the sad truth that more than three-fifths of them have either Pastors or stated supplies. We leave where it belongs, the correction of, what seems to your Committee, this great dereliction of duty. This is a mis-

sionary age, and the responsibility is upon us to educate the people to give, as well as to pray. If they stop giving, their prayers are a nullity.

Our failure to keep up with, and go beyond previous years in our contributions to this cause, cannot be attributed, as we have seen, to diminished numbers. A thousand more to give than the year before! Neither can we ascribe it to increased stringency of the times, since six of our churches have given three times more per member than the average in the whole assembly, and the general collections for the several Boards exceed those of the previous year by $700,000, and even three of our own Presbyteries have increased their contributions, while one appears to have come short by a much larger amount.

It is true most of the non-contributing churches are very weak and need our help, our sympathy and our prayers, but some of them have more than an average membership, and churches as weak, (and so still more to be praised,) have without any minister come nobly to the help of the Lord, with their offerings.

One of the first noble endeavors of this Synod in the very beginning of its history was to devise some plan for our benevolent contributions, by which every member of our congregation should have the opportunity, and incentive to give their just proportion. The excellent report of the Committee appointed for this purpose was adopted, (See our first printed minutes,) and yet, there is no uniform system of collections in our churches. The majority are not reached, the widow's mites are not gathered, the nine-tenths either do not give at all, or very meagerly. Nothing but an earnest zeal for the mission cause can make any system of collections honor the church or its Head. Want of this zeal will paralyze our cause in any church. No plan is automatic, all need pushing. As a church we have never reached such a point of self-denial as will correctly measure our ability to give.

Your committee in conclusion reiterate their deep concern for the feeble churches so generally vacant, and the many localities within our bounds that are never or very rarely visited by a Presbyterian minister. What shall be done, what can be done for these destitute fields? There are too many churches of different denominations in many small places. No comity or changing off or merging seems practicable. And yet to abandon these feeble folds seems like abandoning a sick child to die. To strike them from the roll without giving them a home somewhere is casting them out into the world to seek other folds or perish. To some of these old churches thousands of dollars of missionary money have been given in the hope that they might grow to self support. But the localities have disappointed the hopes of business and religious growth, and the Presbyterian element has also suffered greatly by removals.

Neither the Presbyteries nor the Home Mission Board have the means to assume the support of missionaries for all these places. Our laymen might doubtless do much more than they do to revive these dry bones, and be greatly blessed in so doing. Beyond this we know of no help but for our ministers to give out regular appointments as far as they can reach from the churches where they minister, that there may be no places destitute of spiritual food as far as we can be heard; and secondly arrange with our Elders to take care of our churches several sabbaths in the year while we go and preach to these vacant churches and neglected localities in our several Presbyteries.

JAMES F. CALKINS, *Chairman.*

The report of the Committee on Education was read by the Chairman, Rev. John B. Grier, was accepted and after amendment was adopted and is as follows, viz:

EDUCATION.

The number of students under the care of our Presbyteries is sixteen. Of these the number getting aid from the Board is six.

The contributions have run: Carlisle, $1,043; Huntingdon, $1,488; Northumberland, $489; Wellsboro', $36: Total, $3,056.

The churches as contributing or not contributing are numbered as follows:

Presbyteries.	Carlisle.	Huntingdon.	Northumberland.	Wellsboro'.	Total.
Churches contributing,	28	40	26	8	102
Churches not contributing,	16	25	23	6	70

As compared with the amount contributed in 1876, our statement shows an increase of three hundred and eleven dollars. For this increase the Presbytery of Huntingdon is to be honored in giving this year $1,488, as against $1,004 the preceding year.

In the same Presbytery, the Church of Birmingham has increased its contribution fourfold over that of the year before. The churches of Phillipsburg, Huntingdon and Bedford also deserve mention for contributing to the Board of Education in such generous proportion to their other contributions.

The last annual report of the Board of Education makes good and suggestive reading and should be studied by every pastor, so that the yearly call upon the churches for aid may be intelligently passed upon them from the pulpit. But how many pastors right away drop into the waste paper basket all such matter as the annual report and occasional important circulars from the Secretary of the Board.

Twenty-five thousand dollars the churches of this Synod give this year towards the support of Home and Foreign Missionaries.

The church is bound in honor thus to follow up and ably support her missionary scouts and pioneers.

But will it not show more prudent management and true economy, if the church see to it meanwhile that those who shall soon offer themselves for places in the ministry are of the right kind of men and are getting the best possible preparation for that ministry? And the best of anything costs money. It will not help toward the education of our candidates for the ministry if they must stint themselves every way—what with the mere pittance allowed them, and forget all their independence and manliness of character.

The Board of Education is making an urgent appeal to all our churches for aid. The Secretary writes, date of September. "The failure to meet the last quarter's appropriation, last year, caused great distress among the candidates and much anxiety as to the future. Contributions during the summer have been very small, barely sufficient to cancel the indebtedness incurred to meet the three-quarters appropriations of last year. The present quarter, therefore, finds the Board with an empty treasury, with only a month and a half remaining before the November appropriation is due."

Furthermore we beg leave to quote from the first page of the last Annual Report of the Board the following statement, which we commend especially to such pastors

as may have encountered among their people somewhat of a disposition to regard this one as the least important of all the Boards of the Church, or now and then grumble that the candidates thus aided through the Board generally prove weak and inferior men. Any such notion is refuted by the *facts* in the case. The statement is as follows:

"Of all the ministers enrolled on the minutes of 1876,* full one-third, 1,583, have been helped into sacred office by the Boards. Among these, 48 are Foreign Missionaries; 19 at least are Professors or Presidents in our Collegiate or Theological Institutions; over 100 are distinguished with honorary titles, and a large number are occupying foremost positions in our large churches. On the other hand, of the 604 who are marked as unemployed, whether as "evangelists" or "without charge," only 151, precisely one-fourth, have received aid from the Boards. It is an honorable record, vindicating the worth of our educational policy in times past, and encouraging its continuance for the future. The Church would have been seriously crippled without it."

JOHN B. GRIER, *Chairman.*

The report on publication, Rev. S. M. Moore, Chairman of the Committee, was read by Rev. Dr. J. C. Watson; it was accepted and adopted by Synod and is as follows; viz:

The following statements in regard to the Board of Publication are presented for the consideration of the Synod:

MISSIONARY WORK.

During the year the Board has had in its employ 98 Missionaries who have labored in 35 Synods and 94 Presbyteries. These Missionaries distributed by sales 67,441 volumes, gave away 39,033 volumes and 4,274,813 pages of tracts; visited 121,269 families, having with them prayer and religious conversation.

In its Sabbath School Work, 101 Sabbath Schools were organized and 2,032 Sabbath Schools were visited; grants have been made to needy Sabbath Schools. All moneys given to the Missionary Fund of this Board are used in advancing the Missionary or Benevolent Work of the Church.

In the Presbyteries of Northumberland and Wellsboro,' Mr. A. Swineford has labored as a Commissioned Missionary of the Board.

PERIODICALS.

The "Presbyterian at Work," a valuable aid to teachers, the "Lesson Leaf," the Westminster question book on the International Lesson Series, "the Sabbath School Visitor," and "the Sunbeam," all published by the Board, meet the wants and requirements of the Church. Our Sabbath Schools and the places destitute of the means of grace, are thus supplied with a suitable literature. In this work the Board expects and should receive the hearty co-operation of Synod.

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*Later information is furnished by the Secretary for 1877:
Of the 4,801 on the roll of 1877, the Board has helped to furnish 1,420. Of these 51 are Foreign Missionaries; 319 commissioned by the Board of Home Missions; 21 Professors or Presidents of Colleges; the rest are pastors or stated supplies.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The contributions have fallen off somewhat below those of former years, and amount this year to $1,399.

This amount is distributed among the Presbyteries as follows:

Presbytery of Carlisle, $119, in which 21 churches gave and 27 churches made no contribution.

Presbytery of Huntingdon, $661; 38 of its churches giving while 28 churches failed to make a contribution.

Presbytery of Northumberland, $237; 22 churches contributing, 19 failing to do so.

Presbytery of Wellsboro', $82; 9 churches contributing and 5 non-contributing.

It will thus be seen that in the 204 churches in the bounds of the Synod, 114 made no contribution to this cause, while the amount given was from 90 churches.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved 1. That the Synod would earnestly commend to the attention and confidence of all the Churches, all the periodicals of the Board for the use of our Sabbath Schools, and recommend that diligence be given to their increased circulation among all our Sabbath Schools.

Resolved 2. That inasmuch as the scarcity of funds has compelled the Board to turn a deaf ear to many urgent and deserving appeals, and to curtail its operations, this Synod would enjoin upon all pastors, stated supplies and Church sessions, to lend their aid and co-operation in raising funds in aid of the Board, and inasmuch as so large a proportion of our Churches have failed to give, the Synod would present to them their privilege and duty, the weak as well as the strong, each to give with willing hands according as "the Lord hath prospered" them.

Resolved 3. That as no more fitting opportunity can be presented to our older and abler Sabbath Schools to help the weaker Sabbath Schools than just now, the Synod would recommend that the Superintendents of the Sabbath Schools lay this matter before the schools and secure their help for the Board in this direction.

The report of the Committee on Church Erection was read by its Chairman, Rev. S. W. Reigart, was accepted and adopted by the Synod, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee on Church Erection respectfully call the attention of the Synod to the following facts. According to the statistical tables appended to the minutes of the General Assembly for 1877, there are in connection with the Synod of Harrisburg, 177 churches containing a membership of 23,000 communicants, of these churches the contributions during the year ending April first, to the cause of the church erection, were as follows:

Of the	48	churches of the	Presbytery of	Carlisle,	21	contributed	$802
"	66	"	"	Huntingdon,	45	"	960
"	49	"	"	Northumberland,	21	"	466
"	14	"	"	Wellsboro',	4		16
Making a total of							$2,244

Contributed by 91 churches, a little more than one-half the number of churches in the Synod.

Of the 27 non-contributing churches in the Presbytery of Carlisle, one-half are feeble, 10 are vacant.

Of the 21 non-contributing churches in the Presbytery of Huntingdon, the most are weak, 11 are vacant.

Of the 28 non-contributing churches in the Presbytery of Northumberland, 6 are vacant.

Of the 10 non-contributing churches in the Presbytery of Wellsboro,' many are feeble, 2 are vacant.

In proportion to the number of churches *contributing*, the Presbytery of Carlisle raised the largest amount, whilst to the Presbytery of Huntingdon must be given the palm for having the *largest number* of *contributing* churches, *all* but the feeble and vacant *churches* contributing to this cause.

Comparing the amount contributed this year with the contributions of the last, (according to the Assembly's Tables) we find that last year there was contributed

By the Presbytery of	Carlisle,	$344,	showing an	increase	this year of	$158
" "	Huntingdon,	907,	"	"	"	53
" "	Northumberland,	820,	"	a falling off	"	354
" "	Wellsboro,'	38,	"	"	"	22
By the Synod,		2,409,	"	"	"	165

Going back a little farther and comparing the amount contributed this year with the amounts contributed for the years 1875, and '74, we find a startling decrease in the sum raised by the Synod for church erection thus,

The amount contributed for '75, was as follows:		*For the year '74:*	
By the Pres'by of Carlisle,	$3,053	By the Presb'y of Carlisle,	$2,465
" " Huntingdon,	1,218	" " Huntingdon,	2,150
" " Northumberl'd,	456	" " Northumberl'd,	345
" " Wellsboro',	21	" " Wellsboro',	47
Total,	$4,748	Total,	5,007

Thus in four years our contributions to this object have fallen to less than one-half the amount formerly raised by this Synod, and not only so, but this cause has lost its relative importance among the collections of our churches, the disproportion of the sum raised for church erection, to the sums raised for the other Boards of the church is seen by examining the statistical table for 1877.

Thus the Synod raised for	Foreign Missions,	$14,342
" "	Home Missions,	10,652
" "	Education,	3,053
" "	Ministerial relief	2,728
" "	Church erection,	2,244
" "	Publication,	1,338
" "	Freedmen,	1,273
" "	Sustentation,	1,245
Total,		$36,875

According to this table, this cause ranks *fifth* in the collections of the Synod, instead of ranking *third*, as in the estimation of the General Assembly, In the judgment of the Assembly the cause of church erection ranks next in importance to that of Home Missions, for according to the Assembly's Schedule, while $600,000 are annually needed for the work of Foreign Missionaries, and $475,000 are annually needed for the work of Home Missions, $200,000 are required for church erection, that is *one-third* the amount given to Foreign Missions, and about *two-fifths* the amount given to Home Missions, or *eleven per cent.* of the whole amount contributed. The amount contributed by the Synod of Harrisburg for the present year is seen to fall far below the proportion indicated by the Assembly, being about one-half what it should be to take its proper place. This is a fact we do well to consider, a cause which in the opinion of the General Assembly ranks third in importance in the benevolent work of the church, we have suffered to decline until it has reached a comparatively low place, and a large proportion of our churches, and of our members have allowed to fall out of notice altogether. Surely an average of ten cents a year per member is a small contribution to so worthy a cause. We, whose privilege it is to worship God in pleasant and comfortable churches, should appreciate the trials of those struggling congregations on the frontiers of our country, who, having no place of worship of their own, are compelled to assemble in inconvenient school houses, or rooms over stores or saloons subjected oftentimes to very grave annoyances. The growth of a church is not assured without a *house of worship*. Church erection must go hand in hand with Home Missions to make it work permanent, the minister must have a suitable place in which to preach, that his ministrations may be successful. In view of these things, we recommend the following action :

1. *Resolved*, That the Synod again expresses its sense of the great importance of the cause of church erection, and would earnestly urge upon *all* our *churches*, and *all* the members of them, to make an annual and *enlarged contribution* to sustain and advance this great work.

2. *Resolved*, That we urge upon our Presbyteries and Presbyterial Committees to use all proper means to secure from every church under their care and supervision, an annual collection for this cause.

S. W. REIGART, *Chairman*,

The report of the Committee on Ministerial Relief, made the following report through its Chairman, Rev. Dr. Erskine, which was accepted and adopted :

MINISTERIAL RELIEF.

The Committee would call the attention of the Synod to the following statements: The whole number of churches in the bounds of Synod is 177. Of this number 111 contributed to this fund during the past year and 62 were non-contributing. The whole amount contributed was $2,728. Of this sum 30 churches in Carlisle Presbytery gave $1,148 and 18 gave nothing; 40 churches in Huntingdon Presbytery gave $976 and 26 gave nothing; 33 churches in Northumberland Presbytery gave $562 and 16 gave nothing; 8 churches of Wellsboro,' gave $42 and 6 gave nothing. The Committee would recommend that Synod instruct the several Presbyteries to direct their

standing committees to communicate with their non-contributing churches to this fund and call their attention to their duty in this connection, and also enjoin upon the Presbyteries to continue to call upon the sessions at the spring meeting, to report as to their fidelity in giving the people an opportunity to contribute to the same. The permanent fund of the Board was increased last year to $29,451 90. The Board report that they have granted relief in every case that has been properly brought before them, and would have gladly done so to a larger extent if the churches had furnished the means. The board contract no debts but promptly distributes the funds entrusted to them.

The Committee on Freedmen made the following report through its Chairman, Rev. J. E. KEARNS, which was accepted and adopted and is as follows, viz:

REPORT OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON FREEDMEN.

Your committee are sorry to say that they are unable to present to Synod as flattering a report as was presented last year.

On examining the statistics, we find that there had been a falling off, both in the number of Churches contributing to Freedmen, and also in the amount contributed. Out of 177 Churches in the Synod, only 72 (less than one-half) have given anything to this Board, and these have given but $1,273, which is only about 5½ cents to each communicant on our roll.

While this is the unfortunate exhibit in the bounds of our Synod, the work itself is just as urgent and encouraging as ever, demanding the full confidence, earnest prayers and liberal contributions of all christian people. That the Freedmen are intellectually, morally and spiritually needy requires no proof. That the labor and money expended upon them has been abundantly rewarded, all the reports from the field give evidence. Indeed no missionary effort has yielded larger and more immediate fruits, and yet none has been more neglected. The immediate importance of this mission work is further evident, from the fact, that the Church of Rome is exceedingly active in her endeavors to draw the colored people into her fold and make them a political power for her profit.

Your committee believe that the indifference manifested by our people toward the education and conversion of the Freedmen, is largely the result of neglect and the want of information; they not having been fully instructed by the ministry and eldership, and often the opportunity to contribute not having been offered; we therefore recommend the following for the adoption of the Synod, viz:

The Synod declare it to be a pressing duty that every pastor, stated supply and church session within its bounds, present to their people fully and clearly the claims of the Freedmen, and each year urge them to contribute to this worthy object, and further, that the contributions of our Churches be directed to objects distinctively Presbyterian or under recognized Presbyterian control.

J. E. KEARNS,
Chairman.

The Committe on Sabbath Schools made the following report through its Chairman, REV. H. S. BUTLER. The report was accepted and adopted:

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS TO THE SYNOD OF HARRISBURG, OCT. 20, 1877.

It appears from the Minutes of the General Assembly that the number of Sabbath Schools in the Synod is larger by fourteen (14) than it was last year. The increase is distributed as follows:

	Carlisle.	Huntingdon.	Northumberland.	
Schools,	6	4	4	14
Membership,	819	239	298	1,318

Wellsboro', with the same number of schools, appears to have lost 38 scholars.

A question which invites serious consideration is suggested by the fact that with a church membership of 23,008, we have only 20,093 officers, teachers and scholars in our Sabbath Schools. It would seem that, with proper effort, their benefits should be enjoyed by a far greater number. Your committee would take especial pains to emphasize this fact, brought to the notice of the Synod in another connection, in the hope that the pastors and elders may be stimulated to reach after larger results in this direction.

It does not appear that any unusual impulse has been given within the past year to the Sabbath School work in general, though it is believed that there has been a gradual increase in efficiency in studying and in teaching the Word of God, and there is evidence that our doctrinal standards have not been wholly overlooked.

It is a cheering sign for the future of our churches that so many of our youth, in connection with the interest in the subject of Temperance in certain localities, have been committed to total abstinence from intoxicating drinks.

Your Committee notice with regret that so little attention is paid to training the young to support our benevolent agencies. Of the whole amount which is contributed in the schools evidently a very small proportion is devoted in this way. Taking the departments of Home and Foreign Missions, as those most likely to be remembered in such gifts, it appears that in the Presbytery of

Carlisle, 12 of 39 schools, or 2,195 of 6,804 $-\frac{1}{3}$ scholars, contributed $708 to these objects.

Huntingdon, 20 of 53 schools, or 3,204 of 7,867 $-\frac{1}{2}$ scholars, contributed $688 to these objects.

Northumberland, 8 of 37 schools, or 1,724 of 4,886 $+\frac{1}{3}$ scholars, contributed $483 to these objects.

Wellsboro', 1 of 12 schools contributed $1

Synod, 41 of 141, or 6,623 of 20,693, contributed $1,880.

100 schools with 14,070 scholars, $+\frac{2}{3}$, nothing.

Making allowance for mistakes and failures to report, it seem clear that more than one-half of the Sabbath School scholars in the Synod were afforded no opportunity to give to Home or Foreign Missions. The very creditable amount contributed by those who did give, averaging nearly $50 per school, shows that a gratifying result would have followed a general effort. At the same rate the resources to these Boards would have been more than $6,500 instead of $1,800, and the value of training received to yield results in the future, could not be calculated.

Your Committee are informed that a Presbyterian Sabbath School Convention was held, with good results, in the Presbytery of Huntingdon.

Presbytery of Carlisle has resolved to hold a Sunday School Institute during the coming year.

We offer for your adoption, if expedient, the following recommendations:

1. That in view of the present interest upon the subject, special efforts be made to enlist the young in our Sabbath Schools in the army of total abstainers.

2. That the Synod requests the Sessions of our churches to give opportunity to each member of our Sabbath Schools to contribute every year to one or more of our benevolent agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY S. BUTLER, *Chairman.*

Resolved, In view of the length of the various reports presented to this Synod and the expense of printing them in the annual minutes, the Stated Clerk be authorized to select the most pertinent facts together with the resolutions of said reports to be printed in the next minutes.

Synod also enjoined upon pastors and stated supplies, to read the resolutions appended to the reports of the Permanent Committees from their respective pulpits.

The Committee of Arrangements reported appointments for the pulpits of the various Churches to-morrow.

The Rev. L. M. HEILMAN, of General Synod, Lutheran Church, Rev. J. D. BROWN, of Pennsylvania Central Conference, M. E. Church, and Rev. WM. M. DORLAND, of Synod of Philadelphia being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The devotional exercises now followed; the subject for remark being "The Word in Preaching."

Synod took a recess until 2 P. M.

SATURDAY, 2 P. M.

Synod met and resumed business.

The Committees on the Records of the Presbyteries of Carlisle, Huntingdon and Northumberland, reported recommending their approval as far as written. The reports were accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Finance and Treasurer's account, report that they have examined the account of H. M. GRAYDON, Treasurer, for the year

ending with this meeting of Synod, and compared therewith the accompanying vouchers and find it correct and recommend its approval. They also recommend the following assessment for the current year upon the Presbyteries, to wit:

Carlisle, $65; Huntingdon, $65; Northumberland, $65; Wellsboro', $5.

C. B. NORTHROP,
JOHN S. FURST,
WM. STADDEN,
Committee.

The Rev. Dr. J. G. Craighead, Secretary of the Presbyterian Historical Society, was now heard in behalf of that society.

The following action was taken by the Synod, viz:

Whereas, The General Assembly has renewed its recommendations to the Churches, to prepare historical discourses and take up collections in money for the Presbyterian Historical Society, in order that the invaluable records of our Presbyterian History may be preserved from destruction;

And whereas, The Executive Committee of the Society by its circular addressed to the churches, has called attention to the fact that the last United Presbyterian General Assembly, has appointed the first Sabbath in November as a day in which all its churches are to take up collections for this object, and has requested all other Presbyterian bodies to unite with them in this action;

Resolved, That this Synod anew commend this important matter to the churches within its bounds and urges upon them a compliance with the wishes of the Assembly, by prompt and hearty action, according to the extent of their ability, and that the pastors of those churches which have not taken up a collection in behalf of this Society be instructed to read these resolutions to their people.

Synod now entered upon the consideration of Judicial Case No. 1. Rev. Dr. J. A. Murray being in the chair, gave notice to the Synod, that they were about entering upon judicial business, and as required by the Book of Discipline, enjoined upon the members to regard their high character as Judges of a Court of Jesus Christ.

The papers in the case being found not properly arranged, were referred back to the Judicial Committee, which speedily reported as follows: The Judicial Committee report, that in the case of Dr. Finley—case No. 1, the records of the Presbytery are absent, and that the parties are agreed to a postponement of the case. They therefore recommend that it be laid over until the next meeting of Synod.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The report on Judicial Case No. 2 was taken up, when a letter from the physician of REV. D. J. WALLER, the appellant in the case, was read, affirming that his health would not premit him to be at Synod.

The following action was taken:

Resolved, That the report of the Judicial Committee, in the case of REV. D. J. WALLER be postponed to the next annual meeting of Synod, in view of the enforced absence of the complainant.

The Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Wellsboro,' made a report recommending that the minutes be approved with the following exceptions:

1. The action of the Presbytery upon the subject of fermented wine at the communion of the Lord's Supper, recorded on page 45.

2. The overture to the General Assembly on the same subject and a recommendation to the sessions of their churches to discontinue the use of fermented wine at communion seasons, recorded on page 57.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending appointments for the Synodical Communion, to-morrow P. M.

The Moderator to preside.

The REV. ISAAC GRIER to administer the Bread.

The Rev. JOHN C. BARR to administer the Cup.

The following Ruling Elders to distribute the Elements: JOHN PORTER, ROBERT B. BARBER, DR. A. M. HILLS, JOHN S. FURST, T. F. MCCOY, THOMAS HOWARD.

Synod took recess until 7.30 P. M.

SATURDAY, 7.30 P. M.

Synod met after recess and spent an hour in praise and prayer and conference, after which it resumed business.

The report on the Minutes of the General Assembly was taken from the docket and found to require no further action of Synod.

The following paper was presented on the subject of Temperance. It was accepted and adopted by the Synod:

TEMPERANCE.

This Synod, deeply feeling the continued evil effects of intemperance in our land, and regarding it as one of the darkest of crimes among us, would most earnestly call

the attention of the Churches within its bounds to the following resolutions upon this subject:

Resolved 1. That we as a Synod renewedly deplore the continued manufactory and sale of intoxicating beverages in our land, as well as the use of the same in the prevalent drinking customs of the day.

Resolved 2. That while we rejoice in the successes which have attended the efforts of the past to break up this use, we still feel that the evil itself is yet so formidable that it demands the united and earnest efforts of all God's people to put it away.

Resolved 3. That we hold it to be one of the leading duties of every member of our Churches to oppose this great evil in every proper way, and labor for its destruction.

Resolved 4. That we renewedly call the attention of the sessions of our Churches to this evil, and urge all such to increased vigilence and co-operation in the work of its removal.

Resolved 5. That we likewise urge all Superintendents and Teachers' of our Sabbath Schools, to use all proper and diligent efforts in order to commit the youth of our Churches to the principle and practice of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks.

The following action in regard to the observance of the Sabbath was taken by the Synod, viz:

WHEREAS, The Directors of the International Exhibition Company of Philadelphia have opened said exhibition on the Sabbath day,

Be it Resolved, 1. That we sincerely lament said action of the Board as being contrary to the Word of God, and destructive of our national safety.

2. That we recommend to our churches to offer special prayer for the proper and universal observance of the Sabbath.

The Committee on Leave of Absence made the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

The Committee report that the following ministers were granted leave of absence from the sessions of Synod, after October 19, 1877:

J. D. Reardon, W. W. Downey, W. W. Campbell, T. R. Beeber, Joseph Stevens.

Ruling Elders from same date, E. Beatty, J. L. Sommerville, H. W. Williams, Josiah Reed.

The following were excused from part of the session of Saturday the 20th and the rest of the Synod.

Ministers, J. S. Gordon, D. W. Moore, J. A. Crawford D. H. Campbell, T. A. Robinson, J. F. Kennedy, J. F. Calkins S. C. George, J. C. Kelley, J. K. Demarest, Wm. Sterling, J. H. Stewart, Geo. D. Meigs, I. N. Hays, W. S. VanCleve.

Ruling Elders, D. G. Duncan, P. W. Bentley, C. B. Northrop, M. Kirkpatrick, T. A. Appleby, E. H. Turner, J. T. Green, C. Hyers A. K. Mabie, Samuel Hartzell.

The following ministers sent excuses for absence from last and present meetings of Synod, R. M. CAMPBELL, W. O. WRIGHT, and the following for absence from last meeting, ROBERT MCPHERSON, W. S. VANCLEVE.

The Treasurer was directed to purchase a copy of Moore's Digest for the use of the Synod, to be placed in the custody of the Stated Clerk.

The Rev. T. H. Robinson was appointed to read an Essay sometime during the session of next Synod, on "The duty of the Church to her Children," to be followed by a discussion of the subject.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod are due to the Committee of Arrangements; the session of this church and the people of Harrisburg for the complete arrangements of our comfort while in session; for the elegant floral decorations, and for our hearty and hospitable entertainment, and they cannot forbear to mention the delightfnll occasion enjoyed through the courtesy of the ladies on Friday noon.

Thanks were also tendered to the railroad companies that had granted to the Synod the favor of reduced fare on their roads.

The Moderator was authorized to declare the Synod adjourned finally at the close of the communion service on Sabbath afternoon.

The minutes were read and approved. Synod adjourned with praise and prayer to meet at 3.30 o'clock to morrow afternoon, to join in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Sunday, Oct. 21, 3.30 p. m.

Synod met, and according to prior arrangement celebrated the Communion of the Supper of our Lord. At the close of the service, the Moderator declared the Synod adjourned to meet in the Presbyterian church, Huntingdon, Pa., on the first Thursday after the third Tuesday of October, 1878, at seven and half a clock, P. M. Closed with prayer and the Apostolic benediction.

R. F. WILSON,
Permanent Clerk.

T. H. Robinson,
Stated Clerk.

APPENDIX.

SYNOD OF HARRISBURG.

FORMED 1870.

Ministers, 153; Churches, 178; Licentiates, 3; Candidates, 18; Communicants, 23,008; S. S. Membership, 20,693.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD FOR 1877–8.

Moderator—Rev. ROBERT HAMILL, D. D.
Stated Clerk—Rev. THOMAS H. ROBINSON, D. D.
Permanent Clerk—Rev. ROBERT F. WILSON.
Temporary Clerk—Rev. JOHN C. CALDWELL.
Treasurer—H. MURRAY GRAYDON.

PERMANENT COMMITTEES.

I. *Home Missions*—	William Sterling, T. H. Robinson,	John W. White, J. F. Calkins, A. K. Mabie, *Elder.*	*Ministers.*
II. *Foreign Missions*—	R. F. Wilson, E. D. Wells,	Joseph Vance, S. H. Thompson, T. F. McCoy, *Elder.*	*Ministers.*
III. *Education*—	R. Hamill, J. A. Crawford,	J. Stevens, J. B. Grier, John Porter, *Elder.*	*Ministers.*
IV. *Publication*—	S. S. Wylie, B. Russell,	J. C. Watson, S. M. Moore, C. B. Northrop, *Elder.*	*Ministers.*
V. *Church Erection*—	M. N. Cornelius, S. W. Reigart,	S. H. Thompson, Allen McGlathery, *Elder.*	*Ministers.*

VI. *Ministerial Relief*—N. G. White, John Johnson, J. F. Calkins, E. Erskine, } *Ministers.*
William Macklin, *Elder.*

VII. *Freedman*—S. T. Thompson, John Cairns, J. S. Gordon, J. E. Kearns, } *Ministers.*
Thomas Howard, *Elder.*

VIII. *Sabbath Schools*—S. Mitchell, R. F. McClean, S. C. McElroy, H. S. Butler, } *Ministers.*
John S. Thurst, *Elder.*

IX. *Sustentation*—J. A. Murray, S. T. Wilson, *Ministers.*
J. A. Stewart, *Elder.*

X. *Benevolent Work*—Hon. H. W. Williams, *Chairman.*

W. T. Wylie, W. A. West.
J. C. Kelly, R. Hamill.
S. H. Thompson, L. L. Haughanwont.
Geo. D. Meigs, S. C. McElroy.
T. H. Robinson, *Clerk.*

Note.—The first named person on each of these Committees is Chairman by appointment of Synod for the ensuing year, and is required to have a report ready for the next meeting of Synod.

STATISTICAL REPORTS OF THE PRESBYTERIES, OCT. 18, 1877,

I. Presbytery of Carlisle.

Ministers, 49; Churches, 48; Candidates, 6; Communicants, 6,690.

OFFICERS.

Moderator—Rev. William S. VanCleve, Gettysburg.
Stated Clerk—Rev. William A. West, Harrisburg.
Permanent Clerk—Rev. J. A. Crawford, Chambersburg.
Treasurer—Rev. William H. Logan, Millerstown.

The next stated meeting will be held at Greencastle, on the second Tuesday of April, 1878.

PERMANENT COMMITTEES.

Home Missions—Revs. T. H. Robinson, W. A. West, J. R. Paxton. Ruling Elders J. W. Wier, J. M'Cormick, J. Curwen.

Foreign Missions—Revs. J. Vance, C. P. Wing, J. A. Murray, Geo. Norcross. Ruling Elders E. Beatty, J. T. Green.

Church Erection—Revs. S. W. Reigart, A. D. Mitchell, R. P. Gibson. Ruling Elders M. C. Stayman, Chas. Hyers.

Education—Revs. J. A. Crawford, J. F. Kennedy, J. C. Caldwell. Ruling Elders William G. Reed, John Cree.

Publication—Revs. S. S. Wylie, W. A. McCarrell, I. N. Hays, Ruling Elders Dr. C. A. Howland, W. D. Means.

Relief Fund—Revs. E. Erskine, R. McCachren, H. Rinker. Ruling Elders Thomas Stough, D. P. Tritt.

Freedmen—Revs. J. S. Gordon, S. C. Alexander. Ruling Elders J. H. Walker John Wolff.

Sustentation—Revs. J. A. Murray, C. P. Wing, Geo. Norcross. Ruling Elders R. M. Henderson, James Clark.

Sabbath Schools—Revs. R. F. McClean, W. A, McCarrell, S. C. George. Ruling Elders W. S. Amberson, D. Deitrick.

Vacant Churches and Supplies—Dauphin Co., Rev. T. H. Robinson; Cumberland Co., Rev. C. P. Wing; Adams Co., Rev. J. K. Demarest; Franklin Co., Rev. J. C Caldwell; Fulton Co., Rev. R. F. McClean; Perry Co., Rev. W. H. Logan,

Benevolence—Revs. W. T. Wylie, Thomas Creigh, J. H. Fleming. Ruling Elders Seth Dickey, H. B. Craig.

Manses—Revs. George Norcross, C. P. Wing, J. A. Murray. Ruling Elders Wm. Blair, John Irvine.

The following changes have taken place during the year:

ORDAINED.

June 19, 1877—Samuel McLanahan.

INSTALLED.

June 19, 1877—Samuel McLanahan, as pastor of Waynesboro' Church.

PASTORAL RELATIONS DISSOLVED.

Mar. 1, 1877—Between Isaac W. Davenport and the Elder street Church, Harrisburg
May 3, 1877—Between George Robinson and the Church of Duncannon.
Sept. 18, 1877—Between W. W. Downey and the Church of Paxton.

DISMISSED.

Mar. 1, 1877—Isaac W. Davenport, to the Presbytery of Newark.
Apr 10, 1877—Hiram Baker, to the Presbytery of Knox.

MINISTERS DECEASED.

Aug. 20, 1877—David K. Richardson.

II. Presbytery of Huntingdon, Oct. 4. 1877.

Ministers, 49; Churches, 67; Licentiates, 2; Candidates, 8; Communicants, 10,018.

OFFICERS.

Moderator—Rev. R. M. Campbell, Belleville.
Stated Clerk—Rev. Robert Hamill, Boalsburg.
Treasurer—Rev. Joseph H. Mathers, Antistown.

The next stated meeting will be held at Milroy on the second Tuesday of April, 1878.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Home Missions—Revs. J. W. White, J. C. Kelley, W. C. Kuhn, Thomas Thompson and R. Crittenden.

Foreign Missions—Revs. R. F. Wilson, J. C. Wilhelm, J. C. Barr, A. N. Hollifield, Wm. Laurie.

Publication—Revs. S. M. Moore, J. H. Stewart, A. H. Parker, L. V. R. Hughes, Wm. Gemmill.

Education—Revs. R. Hamill, J. H. Mathers, D. W. Moore, Wm. M. Burchfield, E. P. Foresman.

Church Erection—Revs. M. N. Cornelius, Wm. Prideaux, W. O. Wright, J. P. Hughes.

Ministerial Relief—Revs. N. G. White, R. M. Campbell, J. J. Coale, S. W. Pomeroy, John M'Kean.

Freedmen—Revs. J. E. Kearns, O. O. McClean, T. A. Robinson, S. S. Wallen, J. Waugh.

Sabbath Schools—Revs. H. S. Butler, W. J. Chichester, T. J. Sherrard, and Ruling Elders, A. S. Landis and D. W. Woods.

Sustentation—Revs. S. T. Wilson, J. C. Barr, N. H. Miller, R. A. Watson, N. H. McDonald.

Credentials—Revs. D. H. Barron, W. J. Gibson, M. N. Cornelius.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.

MINISTERS RECEIVED.

Dec. 26, 1876—Wm. Laurie, from the Presbytery of Geneva.
Oct. 2, 1877—Robert A. Watson, from the Presbytery of Steubenville.
Oct. 3, 1877—Noah H. McDonald, from the Presbytery of Siam.

INSTALLED.

Dec. 26, 1876—Wm. Laurie as pastor of Bellefonte Church.

PASTORAL RELATIONS DISSOLVED.

April 11, 1877—Between J. C. Wilhelm and Churches of Shaver's Creek and Bethel.
April 11, 1877—Between John McKean and Little Valley Church.

LICENSED.

April 12, 1877—R. E. Flickinger.

LICENTIATE DISMISSED.

August 4, 1871—Oliver A. Kerr, to the Presbytery of Monmouth.

CHURCHES ORGANIZED.

July 25, 1877—Mt. Olivet, Oct. 30, 1877, Petersburg.

III. Presbytery of Northumberland.

Ministers, 42; Churches, 49; Licentiates, 1; Candidates, 4; Communicants, 5,473.

OFFICERS.

Moderator—Rev. John Burrows, Williamsport.
Stated Clerk and Treasurer—Rev. L. L. Haughawout, Mill Hall.

The next stated meeting will be held in the Third Church of Williamsport, on the 3d Tuesday of April, 1878, at 2½ o'clock P. M.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Home Missions—Revs. William Sterling, G. F. Cain, John Burrows. Ruling Elders A. D. Lundy, B. W. Thompson.
Foreign Missions—Rev. S. H. Thompson. Elder A. D. Renninger.
Publication—Revs. J. C. Watson, Isaac Grier. Elder W. C. Lawson.
Church Erection—Revs. S. H. Thompson, D. J. Waller, Jr. Elder Thomas Howard.
Freedmen—Revs. S. T. Thompson, H. G. Finney. Elder W. M. Rankin.
Ministerial Relief—Rev. John Johnson. Elder A. Jordan.
Sabbath Schools—Revs. S. Mitchell. Alex. Henry. Elder B. W. Thompson.
Vacant Churches—Revs. I. Grier, R. White. Elder J. V. Barber.
Manses—Revs. J. D. Reardon, George Elliott. Elder Robert Barber.
Education—Revs. Joseph Stevens, J. Nesbitt. Elder J. J. Sanderson.

MINISTERS RECEIVED.

Oct. 20, 1876—Geo. P. Beard, Hannibal Association. Congregational.
Nov. 16, 1876—John S. Foulk, from Presbytery of Baltimore.
Oct. 3, 1877—Charles K. Canfield, from Presbytery of Lackawanna.

ORDAINED.

Oct. 3, 1877—Alpheus James Montgomery.

INSTALLED.

Nov, 1876—A. C. Campbell, as pastor of Montgomery Church.
Nov. 16, 1876—John S. Foulk, as pastor of Northumberland I Church.

CHURCHES DISSOLVED.

April 18, 1877—Mount Carmel
April 18, 1877—Beavertown.

PASTORAL RELATION DISSOLVED.

April 18, 1877—Robert White, Shiloh.

MINISTERS DISMISSED.

Oct. 2, 1877—George P. Beard, to Presbytery of Pittsburg.

LICENTIATE RECEIVED.

Oct. 3, 1877—A. J. Montgomery, from Presbytery of Shenango.

IV. Presbytery of Wellsboro'.

Ministers, 13; Churches, 14; Communicants, 827.

OFFICERS.

Moderator—Rev. J. Mills Gillette, Kane.
Stated Clerk and Treasurer—Rev. S. C. McElroy, Coudersport.

The next meeting will be held at Elkland on the second Tuesday of April, at two o'clock P. M.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Home Mission—Revs. J. F. Calkin, E. D. Wells, and Elder H. W. Williams.
Foreign Missions—Revs. E. D. Wells, Benj. Russell, and Elder H. T. Ryon.
Education—Rev. John B. Grier, and Elder Alexander Pollock.
Publication—Revs. Benjamin Russell, Wm. Baldwin, and Elder H. T. Ryon.
Church Erection—Rev. Geo. D. Meigs, and Elder H. W. Williams.
Ministerial Relief—Revs. J. F. Calkins, Wm. Baldwin and Elder S. E. Ensworth.
Freedmen—Revs. John Cairns, John B. Grier, and Elder Samuel G. Rockwell.
Sabbath Schools—Rev. S. C. McElroy.

INSTALLED.

April 11, 1877—Rev. Geo. D. Meigs, as pastor of Church of Mansfield.

DISMISSED.

February 23, 1877—Rev. Jos. A. Rossell, to the Presbytery of Lackawanna.

Treasurer's Account.

H. M. GRAYDON, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE SYNOD OF HARRISBURG.

1876.	Dr.	
October 30—To balance received of John A. Weir, late Treasurer		$1 51
October 30—To cash of Presbytery of Wellsboro', balance due from last year,		5 00
October 30—To cash of same on assessment for 1877		5 00
December 30—To balance of same for 1877		3 00
1877.		
January 2—To cash of Presbytery of Northumberland, assessment for 1877		70 00
January 5—To cash of Presbytery of Huntingdon, on account of 1877		41 00
March 23—To cash of Presbytery of Huntingdon, balance in full		29 00
April 11—To cash of Presbytery of Carlisle, assessment for 1877		70 00
Total		224 51

1876.	Cr.	
October 30—By cash paid janitor at Jersey Shore		$10 00
1877.		
January 5—By cash paid Rev. R. F. Wilson, Permanent Clerk		25 00
January 5—By cash paid W. D. Bailey, printing Minutes		77 00
January 16—By cash paid T. F. Scheffer, printing statistics, &c		5 75
April 16—By cash paid Rev. T. H. Robinson, salary as Stated Clerk		50 00
April 16—By cash paid Rev. T. H. Robinson, sundry expenses,		8 10
Balance in hands of Treasurer		48 66
Total		224 51

H. M. GRAYDON, *Treasurer.*

Standing Rules of Synod.

I. Meeting of Synod.—This Synod shall meet annually on the Thursday after the third Tuesday of October, at such hour and place as shall be designated at meeting of the preceding year.

II. The place of meeting shall be determined by a majority and not by a plurality of votes. After the first ballot, the two places having the greatest number of votes shall alone be voted for.

III. The Stated and Permanent Clerks, or one of them, shall attend at the church in which the meeting of Synod is to be held, at least one hour before the time fixed for said meeting, for the purpose of preparing the Roll, and it shall be the duty of members on their arrival to report at once to said clerks.

IV. At the opening of Synod, the calling of the Roll, and the election of Moderator and Temporary Clerk shall follow the religious exercises.

V. Religious Exercises of the Synod.—The annual meeting of the Synod shall be opened with a sermon by the retiring Moderator, or in case of his failure, by some member of the Synod, designated by the Committee of Arrangements.

VI. Each morning session of Synod shall be opened with devotional exercises, to be continued one hour.

VII. A Synodical prayer-meeting shall be held on the first afternoon of the sessions of Synod, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Synod, and the Presbyteries, Sessions and Churches within its bound.

VIII. The Sacrement of the Lord's Supper shall be celebrated at each annual meeting of Synod, on the Sabbath Day.

IX. Clerks.—The Clerks of Synod shall be a Stated and a Permanent Clerk, who shall serve during the pleasure of the Synod, and a Temporary Clerk, who shall be elected annually.

X. The Stated Clerk of each Presbytery is required to report to the Synod at each Annual Meeting, the number of Churches, Ministers, Licentiates and Candidates within the bounds of the Presbytery, and also the changes that have taken place during the year; such as the death, the reception and dismission of ministers, ordinations, installations, licensures, dissolutions of pastoral relationships, organization of Churches, &c., &c. He shall also in time for the opening of Synod, furnish the Stated Clerk of Synod with a correct Roll of the Presbytery.

XI. Committees.—The following Standing Committees shall be appointed at each annual meeting:

1. A Committee on Bills and Overtures to consist of five members.
2. A Judicial Committee to consist of five members.

3. A Committee on Finance and the Treasurer's Account of three members.

4. A Committee on the Narrative to consist of three members.

5. A Committee on Leave of Absence to consist of three members.

6. A Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly to consist of five members.

7. As many committees on the Records of the Presbyteries as there are Presbyteries in the Synod, to consist of three members each

8. Synodical permanent committees on the following objects: Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Publication, Education, Church Erection, Ministerial Relief, Freedmen, Sabbath Schools, Sustentation, The Benevolent Work of the Church, Vacant Churches and Unemployed Ministers.

XII. These Committees shall consist of the Chairman of the several Presbyterial committees on their respective objects, together with an Elder for each to be appointed by the Moderator, and they shall be expected to prepare and present full reports at each meeting of the Synod, and at as early a period as possible at each meeting of Synod these several Committees shall be called upon to announce their respective Chairman. If any Chairman shall be absent the Moderator shall at once appoint one.

2. The Committee on the Benevolent Work of the Church shall consist of the Chairmen of the several Presbyterial Committees on Benevolent Work, &c., of the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, and the Stated Clerk of Synod, who shall be ex-officio clerk of said committee.

XIII. Narratives and Statistical Reports.—The Narratives on the State of Religion reported by the Presbyteries, shall embrace the results of the year to October 1, and shall, with the Statistical Reports, be read to the Synod during the half-hour preceding the Synodical Prayer-Meeting, and then be referred respectively to the Committee of the Synod on the Narrative, and the Stated Clerk.

XIV. The Presbyterial Narratives shall be sent to the Chairman of the Synod's Committee, and the Statistical reports to the Stated Clerk of Synod, ten days before its meeting.

XV. Absentees.—Members of Synod cannot absent themselves from its meetings without neglect of duty, unless prevented from attendance by sickness or other Providential dispensations.

XVI. Members of Synod absent from its sessions shall assign the reasons for such absence by letter. Those who are absent twice in succession, without assigning reasons, shall be notified of their delinquency by the Stated Clerk of Synod, and called on for reasons of absence.

The Stated Clerk shall, at least one month previous to each meeting of Synod, write to the session of each Church which failed to be represented at the last previous meeting, asking them to forward reasons for such non-representation, and urging them to be represented at the approaching meeting.

XVII. All reasons assigned for absence are to be laid before Synod's Committee on leave of absence, and its action thereon shall be reported to the Synod before the close of the session.

XVIII. **Committee of Arrangements.**—A Committee of Arrangements shall be appointed at each session of the Synod, for the ensuing year, who shall provide suitable accommodations for the Synod, and make such arrangements with the Railroad Companies for the transit of the members of Synod, as may be possible.

XIX. Minutes.—The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Synod shall be published under the direction of the Stated Clerk, as soon as possible after the adjournment, and a copy sent to every Minister of Synod and to the session of every Church in Synod.

XX. Janitor.—The Janitor's Fee shall be ten dollars.

XXI. Closing of Session.—At the close of the session of Synod the roll shall be called and the names of the absentees shall be marked.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Year	Place.	Number of Ministers	Number of Churches	Ministers present	Elders present	Total	Church Membership	Sunday School Membership	Eldership	Moderator.
1870..	Bellefonte	129	160	51	41	92	.....	.....	.....	Rev. Thos. Creigh, D. D.
1870..	Harrisburg	129	160	78	45	123	.....	.....	.....	Rev. Wm. J. Gibson, D.D.
1871..	Hollidaysburg	141	164	71	43	114	17,238	15,493	.....	Rev. Jas. C. Watson, D. D.
1872..	Milton	150	169	81	65	146	18,522	16,442	621	Rev. Conway P. Wing, D. D.
1873..	Lock Haven	144	172	87	58	145	18,755	15,773	671	Rev. N. Grier White.
1874..	Carlisle	138	173	91	61	152	19,657	17,496	704	Rev. James F. Calkins.
1875..	Lewistown	149	176	85	58	143	20,320	17,263	.....	Rev. Samuel J. Milliken.
1876..	Jersey Shore	151	178	64	29	93	22,957	19,355	.....	Rev. Jos. A. Murray. D. D.
1877..	Harrisburg	153	178	102	59	161	23,008	20,693	.....	Rev. Robert Hamill, D. D.

SUMMARY OF SYNOD FOR 1877.

Presbyteries.	Ministers	Churches	Licentiates	Candidates	Church Membership.
Carlisle	49	48	....	6	6,690
Huntingdon	49	67	2	8	10,018
Northumberland	42	49	1	4	5,473
Wellsboro'	13	14	....	....	827
Total	153	178	3	18	23,008

DOCKET, 1878.

Opening religious exercises. Sermon by the MODERATOR.

Calling of the Roll.

Election of Moderator and Temporary Clerk.

Report of Committee of Arrangements, on the hours of meeting and recess, orders relating to religious exercises and any special services.

Distribution of last year's Minutes.

Presentation of Presbyterial Records and Statistical Reports, the Treasurer's Account, and all papers addressed to Synod.

Anouncement of the following Standing Committees, and reference to them of the appropriate records and papers :

On Bills and Overtures,
Judicial Committee,
On minutes of General Assembly,
} Three Ministers and two Elders on each Committee

On Finance and Treasurer's Account, three Elders.

On the Narrative for 1879,
On Leave of Absence,
On Records of Presbyteries,
} Two Ministers and one Elder each.

An Elder on each of the Permanent Committees of Synod.

Place of meeting for 1878.

Appoint the Committee of Arrangements.

The Synodical Prayer-Meeting on Friday P. M., preceded by the reading of the Presbyterial Narratives and the Statistical reports.
and of the Synod's Narrative.

Reports from the following Permanent Committees :

Home Missions—*REV. WM. STERLING, Chairman.
Foreign Missions—*REV. R. F. WILSON, Chairman.
Education—*REV. R. HAMILL, Chairman.
Publication—*REV. S. S. WYLIE, Chairman.
Church Erection—*REV. M. N. CORNELIUS, Chairman.
Ministerial Relief—*REV. N. G. WHITE, Chairman.
Freedmen—*REV. S. T. THOMPSON, Chairman.
Sabbath Schools—*REV. STUART MITCHELL, Chairman.

Sustentation—*Rev. J. A. Murray, Chairman.
Benevolent Work—*Hon. H. W. Williams, Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF LAST SYNOD

Judicial Case, No. 1.

Judicial Case, No. 2.

Essay appointed by last Synod.

Reports from Standing and Special Committees.

On Minutes of General Assembly.
On Finance and Treasurer's Account.
On Bills and Overtures.
Judicial Committee.
Records of Presbyteries.
Leave of Absence.
Reading of Minutes.
Adjournment.

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* The Chairman of each of these Committees is required by Synod to secure a report from his Committee for consideration at the next stated meeting of Synod.